

2008 Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking Summary

Department of Consumer & Business Services

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By Mike Manley and Jay Dotter

Oregon employers in the voluntary market pay, on average, the 39th highest workers' compensation premium rates in the nation.

Oregon's premium rate index is \$1.88 per \$100 of payroll, or 83 percent of the national median. National premium rate indices range from a low of \$1.08 in North Dakota to a high of \$3.97 in Alaska, with a median value of \$2.26. No jurisdictions have an index rate above \$4; 6 are in the \$3.00-\$3.99 range; 31 are in the \$2.00-\$2.99 range; and 14 have indices under \$2.00. Indices are based on data from 51 jurisdictions, for rates in effect as of January 1, 2008.

Figure 1. 2008 Workers' compensation premium index rates

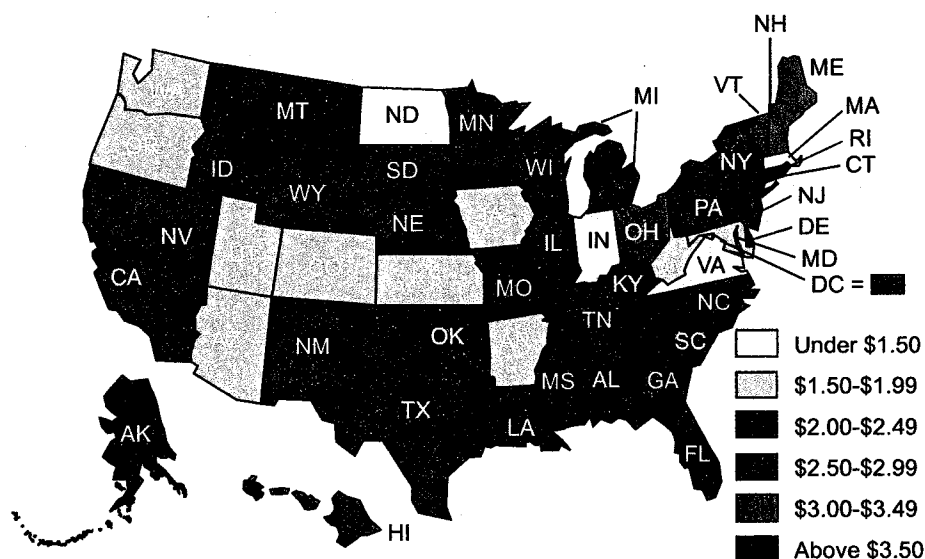


Table 1. Oregon's ranking in the top 10 classifications

Occupation	Ranking
Clerical office employees NOC	49
Salespersons – Outside	47
College: Professional employees & clerical	41
Physician and clerical	38
Restaurant NOC	45
Store: Retail, NOC	40
Hospital: Professional employees	40
Automobile service/repair center & drivers	34
Trucking: NOC – All employees & drivers	25
Health care employees – Retirement, nursing, convalescent	32

Classification codes from the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) were used in this study. Of approximately 450 active classes in Oregon, 50 were selected based on relative importance as measured by share of losses in Oregon. To control for differences in industry distributions, each state's rates were weighted by 2002-2004 Oregon payroll to obtain an average manual rate for that state. Listed in Table 1 are Oregon's rankings in the top 10 of the 50 classifications used.

Table 2 (on the back) contains the premium rate ranking for all 51 jurisdictions.

Table 2. Workers' compensation premium rate ranking

2008 Ranking	2006 Ranking	State	Index Rate	Percent of study median	Effective Date
1	1	Alaska	3.97	176%	January 1, 2008
2	5	Montana	3.50	155%	July 1, 2007
3	12	Ohio	3.32	147%	July 1, 2007
4	7	Vermont	3.14	139%	April 1, 2007
5	19	New Hampshire	3.06	136%	January 1, 2008
6	8	Maine	3.04	135%	January 1, 2008
8	3	Delaware	2.96	131%	December 1, 2007
8	4	Kentucky	2.96	131%	October 1, 2007
9	9	Alabama	2.90	129%	March 1, 2007
10	13	Oklahoma	2.89	128%	8/1/07 State Fund, 1/1/08 Private
11	21	Illinois	2.79	124%	January 1, 2008
12	11	Louisiana	2.76	122%	October 1, 2007
13	25	South Carolina	2.74	121%	May 7, 2007
14	2	California	2.72	121%	January 1, 2008
15	18	Pennsylvania	2.68	119%	April 1, 2007
16	23	New Jersey	2.66	118%	January 1, 2008
17	17	Texas	2.61	116%	January 1, 2008
18	30	Nevada	2.58	115%	March 1, 2007
19	10	New York	2.55	113%	October 1, 2007
20	14	Connecticut	2.46	109%	January 1, 2008
21	26	Tennessee	2.44	108%	July 1, 2007
22	37	North Carolina	2.43	108%	April 1, 2007
24	21	Minnesota	2.33	103%	January 1, 2008
24	32	Mississippi	2.33	103%	March 1, 2007
25	41	Georgia	2.29	102%	August 3, 2007
26	22	Rhode Island	2.26	100%	February 1, 2007
28	6	Florida	2.20	98%	January 1, 2008
28	25	Missouri	2.20	97%	January 1, 2008
29	16	District of Columbia	2.16	96%	November 1, 2007
32	27	New Mexico	2.15	95%	January 1, 2008
32	39	Michigan	2.15	95%	January 1, 2007
32	33	Nebraska	2.15	95%	February 1, 2007
34	35	Wisconsin	2.12	94%	October 1, 2007
34	32	Idaho	2.12	94%	January 1, 2008
36	15	Hawaii	2.08	92%	January 1, 2008
36	44	South Dakota	2.08	92%	July 1, 2007
37	29	Wyoming	2.06	91%	January 1, 2008
38	37	Washington	1.98	88%	January 1, 2008
39	42	OREGON	1.88	83%	January 1, 2008
41	34	West Virginia	1.86	83%	July 1, 2007
41	45	Iowa	1.86	82%	January 1, 2008
42	43	Kansas	1.77	78%	January 1, 2008
43	29	Colorado	1.76	78%	January 1, 2008
44	40	Maryland	1.72	76%	January 1, 2008
45	46	Arizona	1.67	74%	January 1, 2008
46	38	Utah	1.63	72%	December 1, 2007
47	48	Arkansas	1.61	71%	January 1, 2008
48	49	Virginia	1.43	63%	April 1, 2007
49	47	Massachusetts	1.39	62%	September 1, 2007
50	50	Indiana	1.23	55%	January 1, 2008
51	51	North Dakota	1.08	48%	July 1, 2007

Notes: Starting with the 2008 study, when two or more states' Index Rate values are the same, they now are assigned the same ranking. The index rates reflect appropriate adjustments for the characteristics of each individual state's residual market. Rates vary by classification and insurer in each state. Actual cost to an employer can be adjusted by the employer's experience rating, premium discount, retrospective rating, and dividends.

Employers can reduce their workers' compensation rates through accident prevention, safety training, and by helping injured workers return to work quickly.

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Information Management Division
350 Winter St. NE, Room 300
P.O. Box 14480
Salem, OR 97309-0405
503-378-8254